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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE



COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

TERRORISM REVIEW

FEBRUARY 1997

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DI TR 97-002
February 1997

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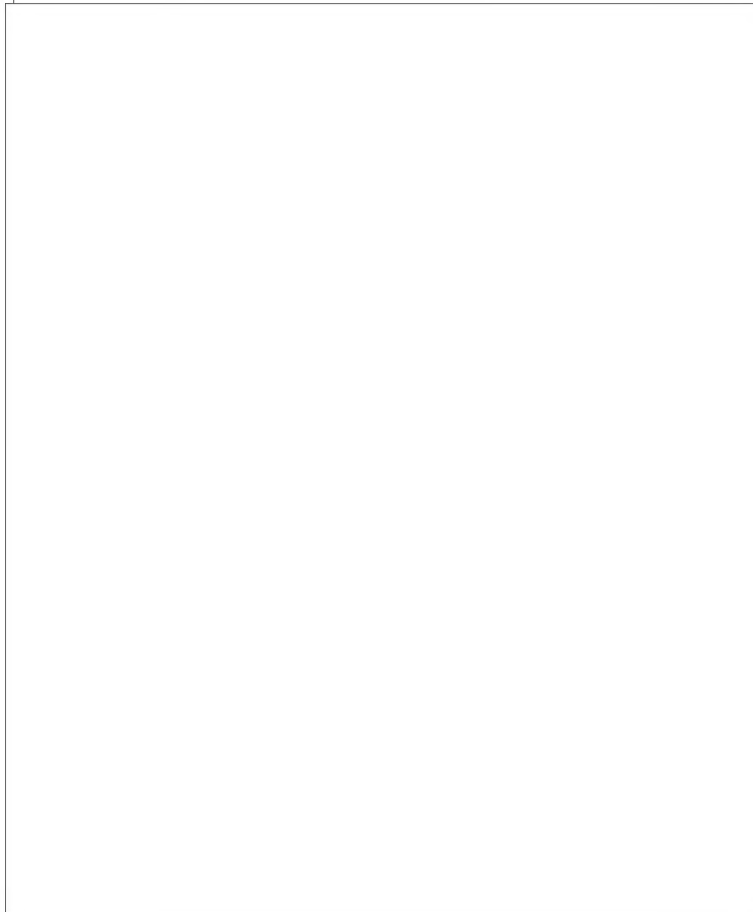
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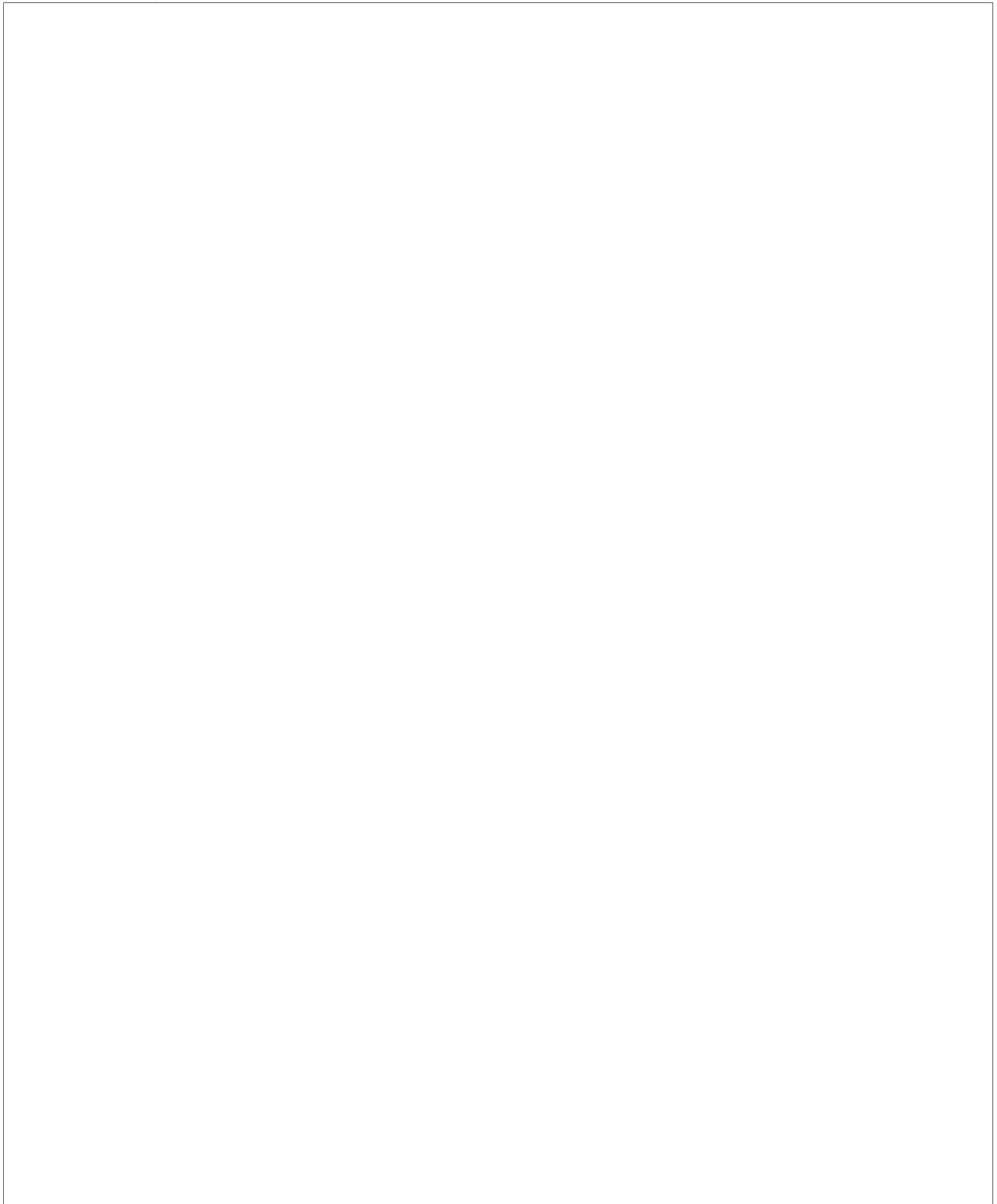
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Information available as of 21 February 1997 was used in this Review.

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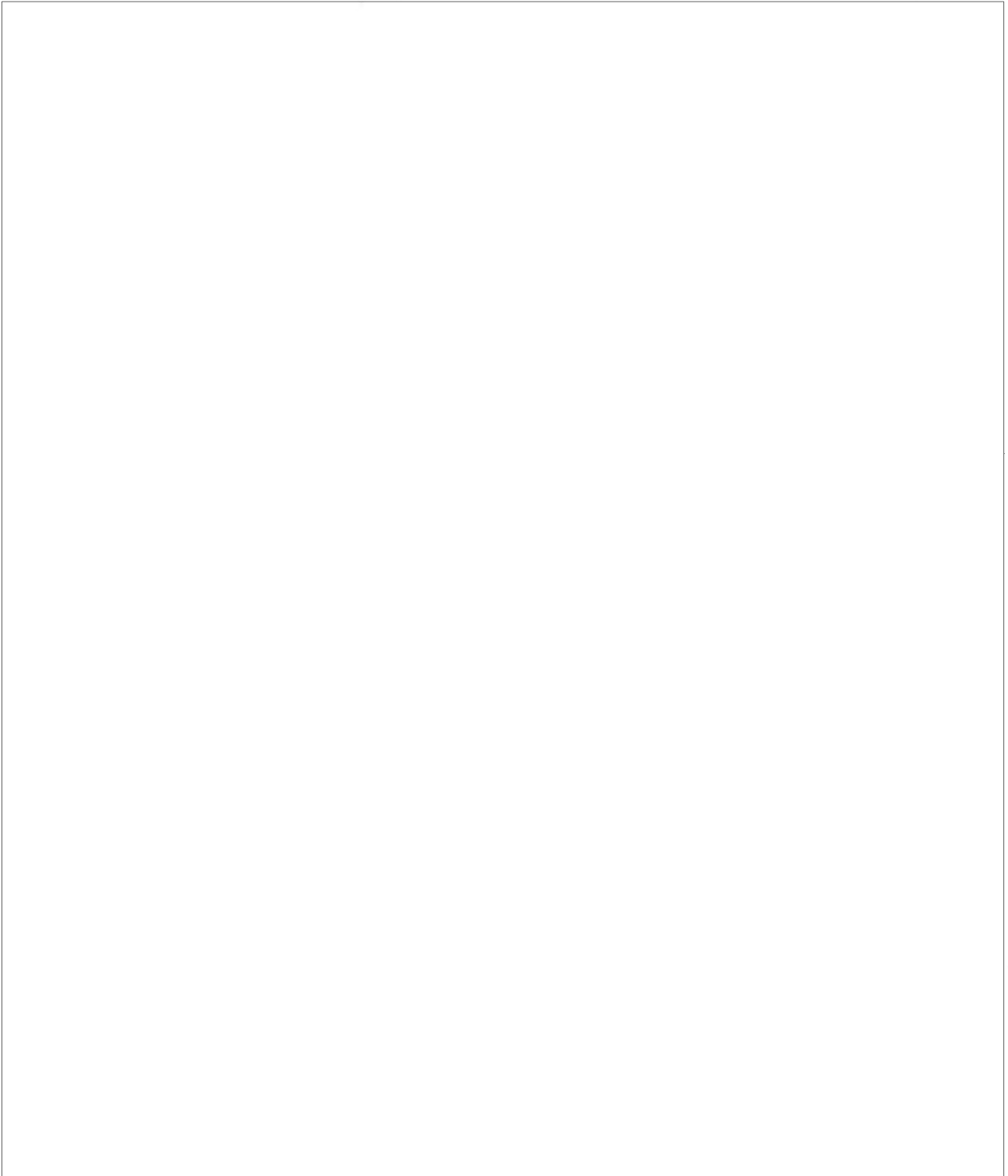
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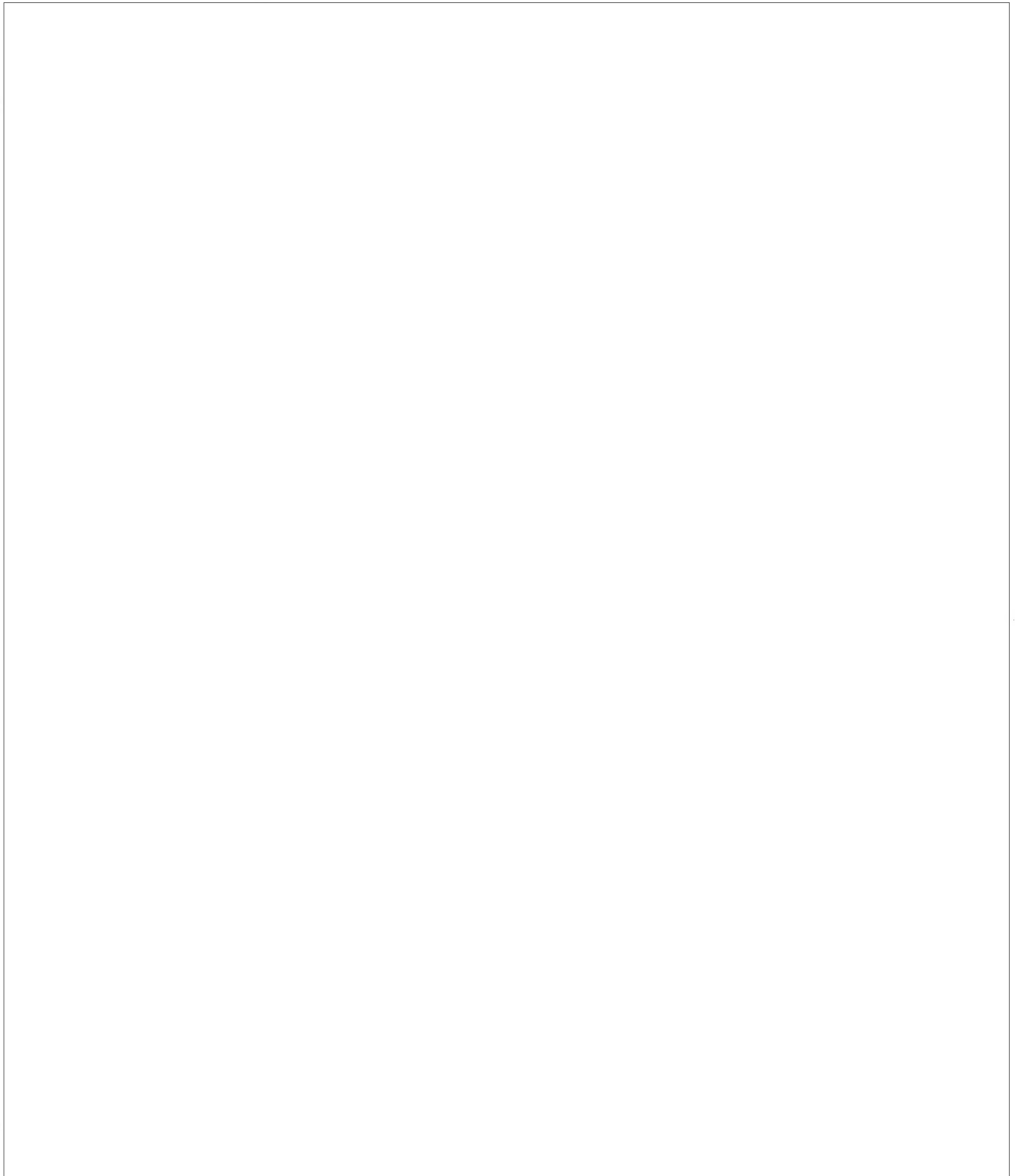
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Implications ☐

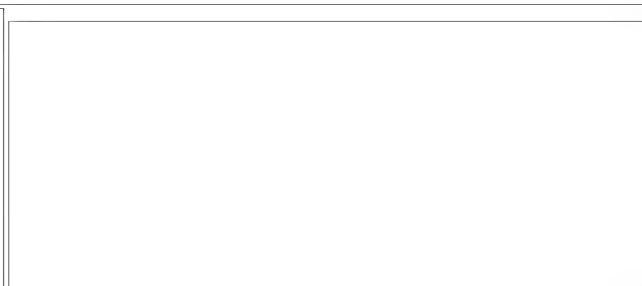
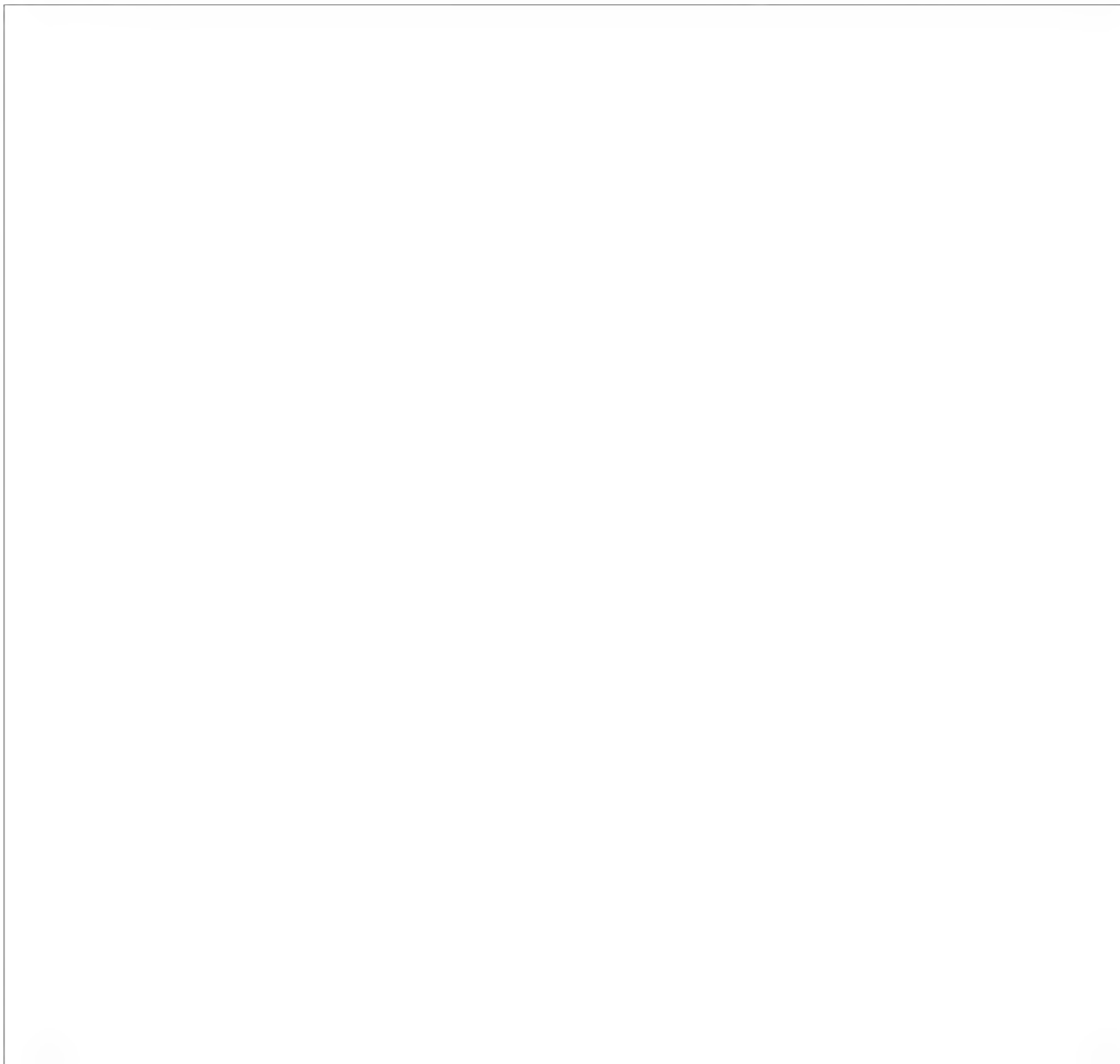
Gulf extremists would become more dangerous if they were to adopt suicide operations as a tactic. Previous instances of suicide operations demonstrate that the tactic has enabled the terrorists to conduct operations despite nominally tight security because they do not need an escape route:

- In the bombing of the Marine Corps barracks in Lebanon in 1983, the truck crashed through the gate past unarmed guards. Similarly, in the bombing of the Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad, one car destroyed the gate and the guardhouse with an explosive, clearing the way for the truck carrying the main charge.

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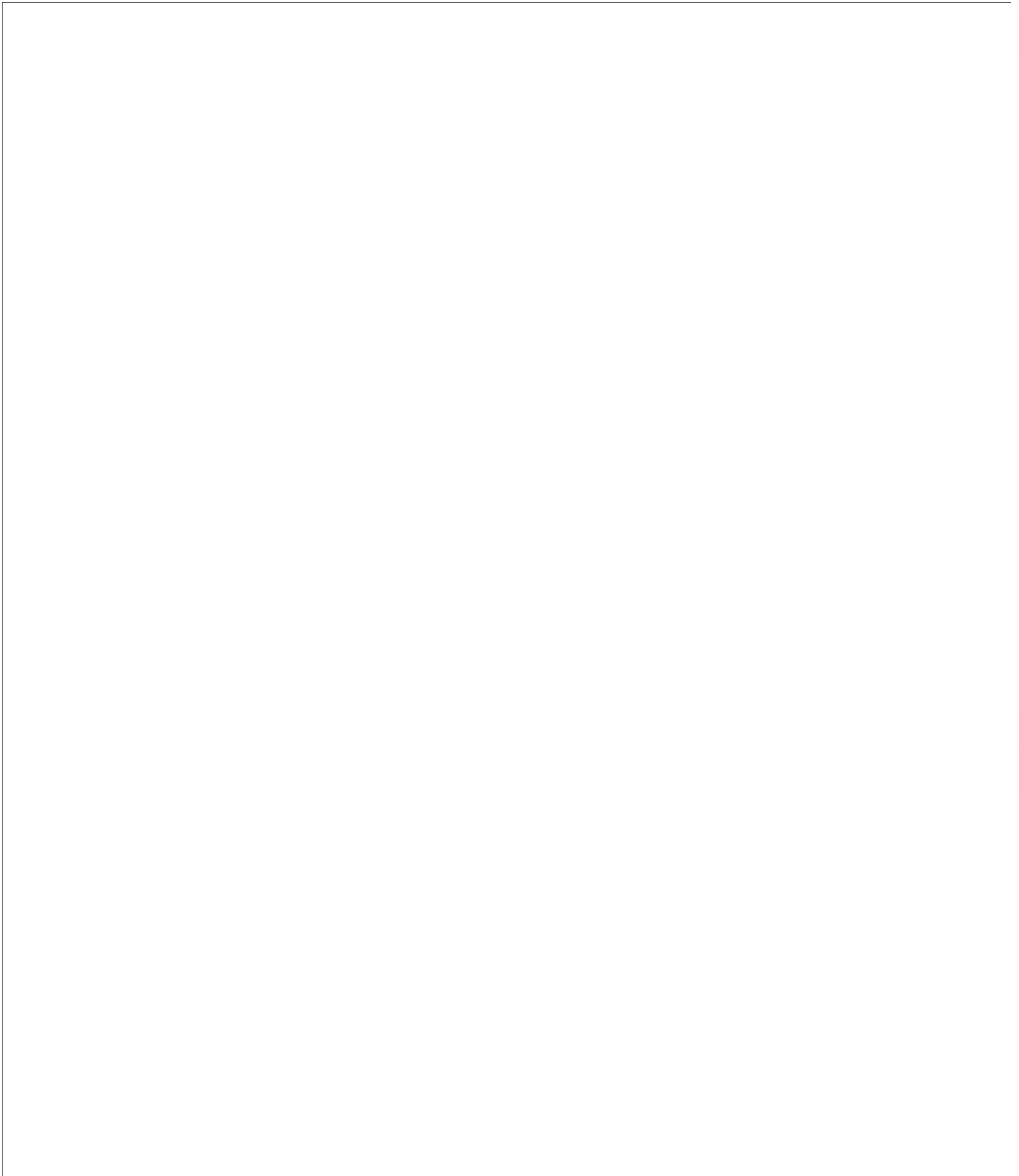


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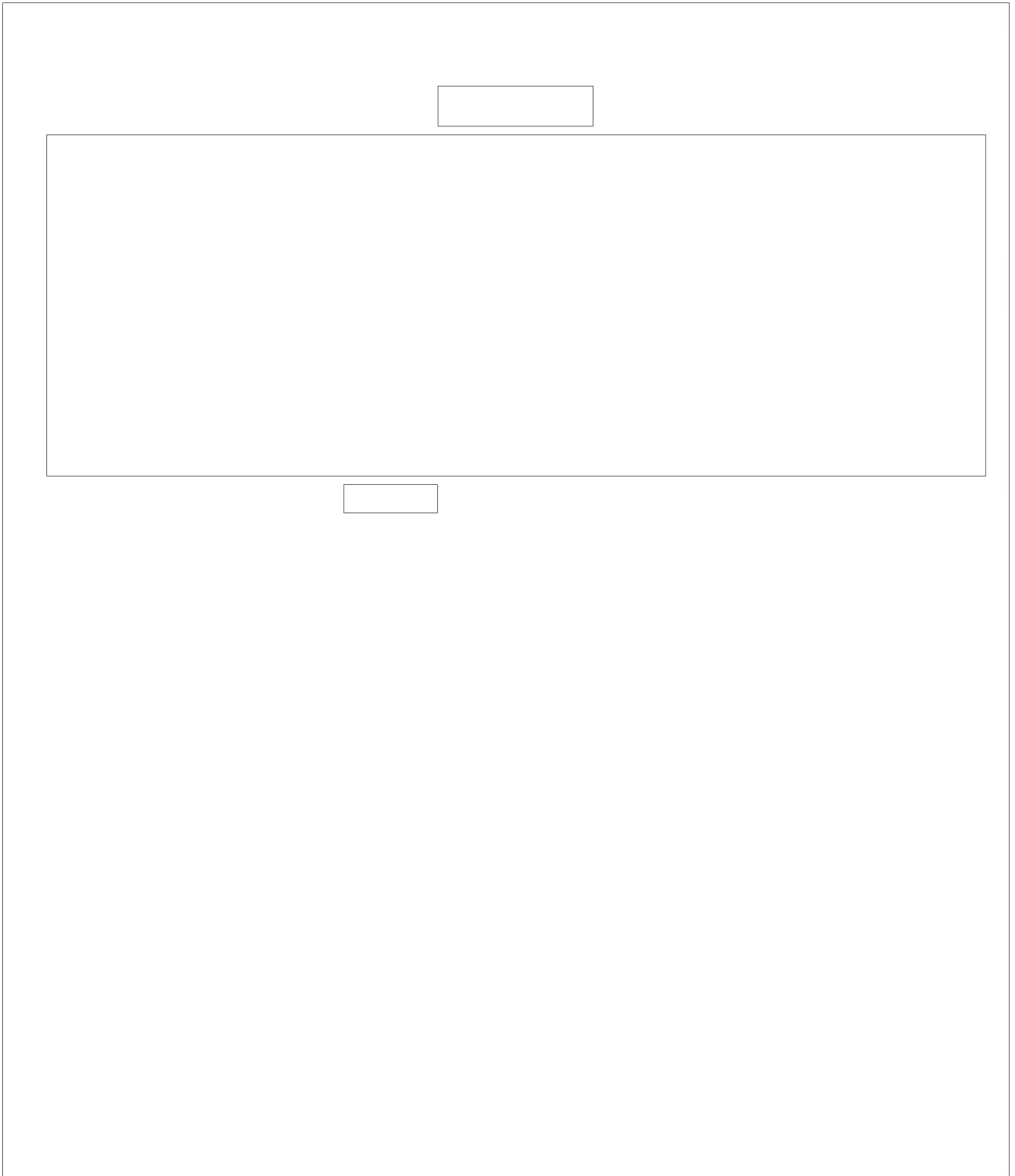


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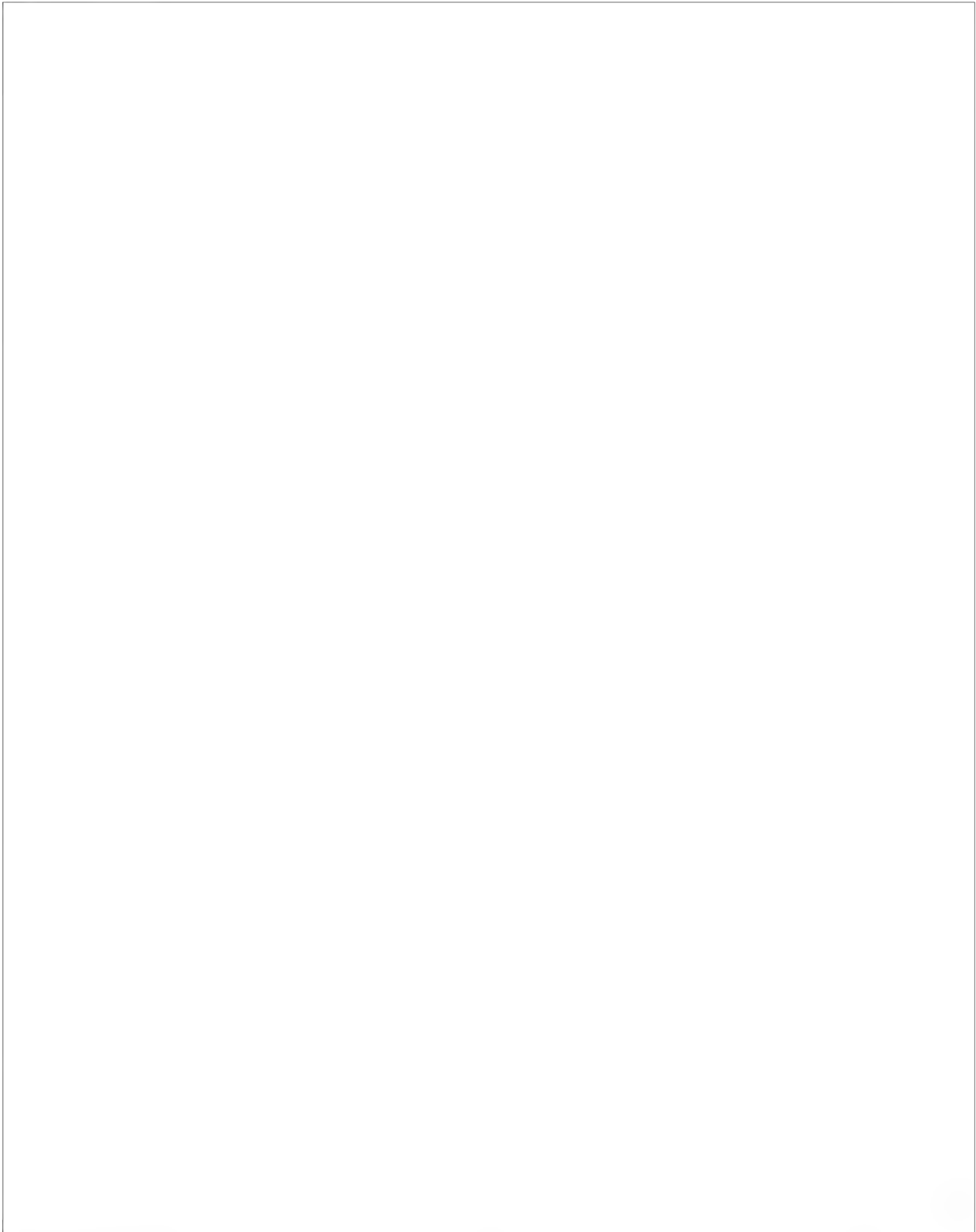
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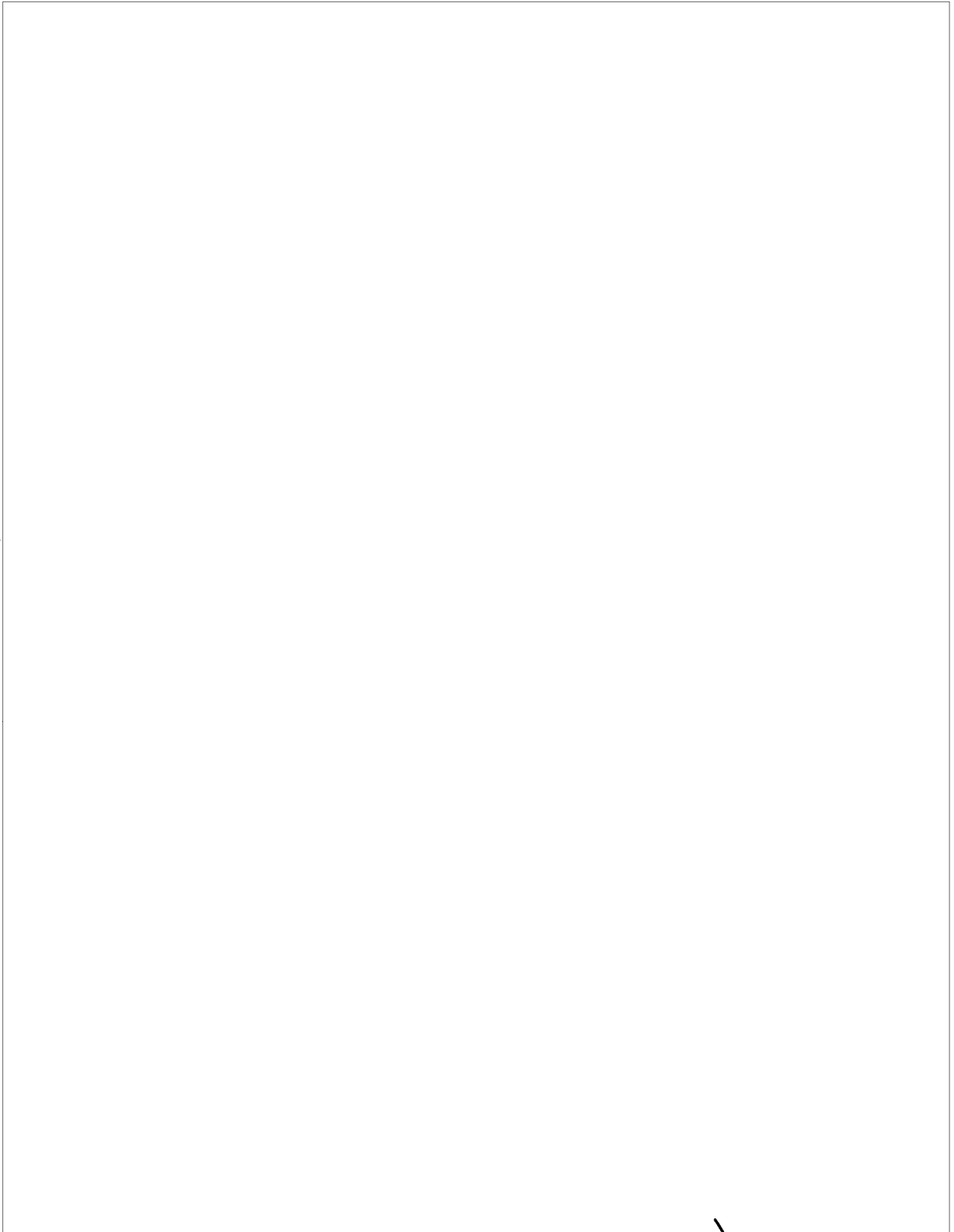
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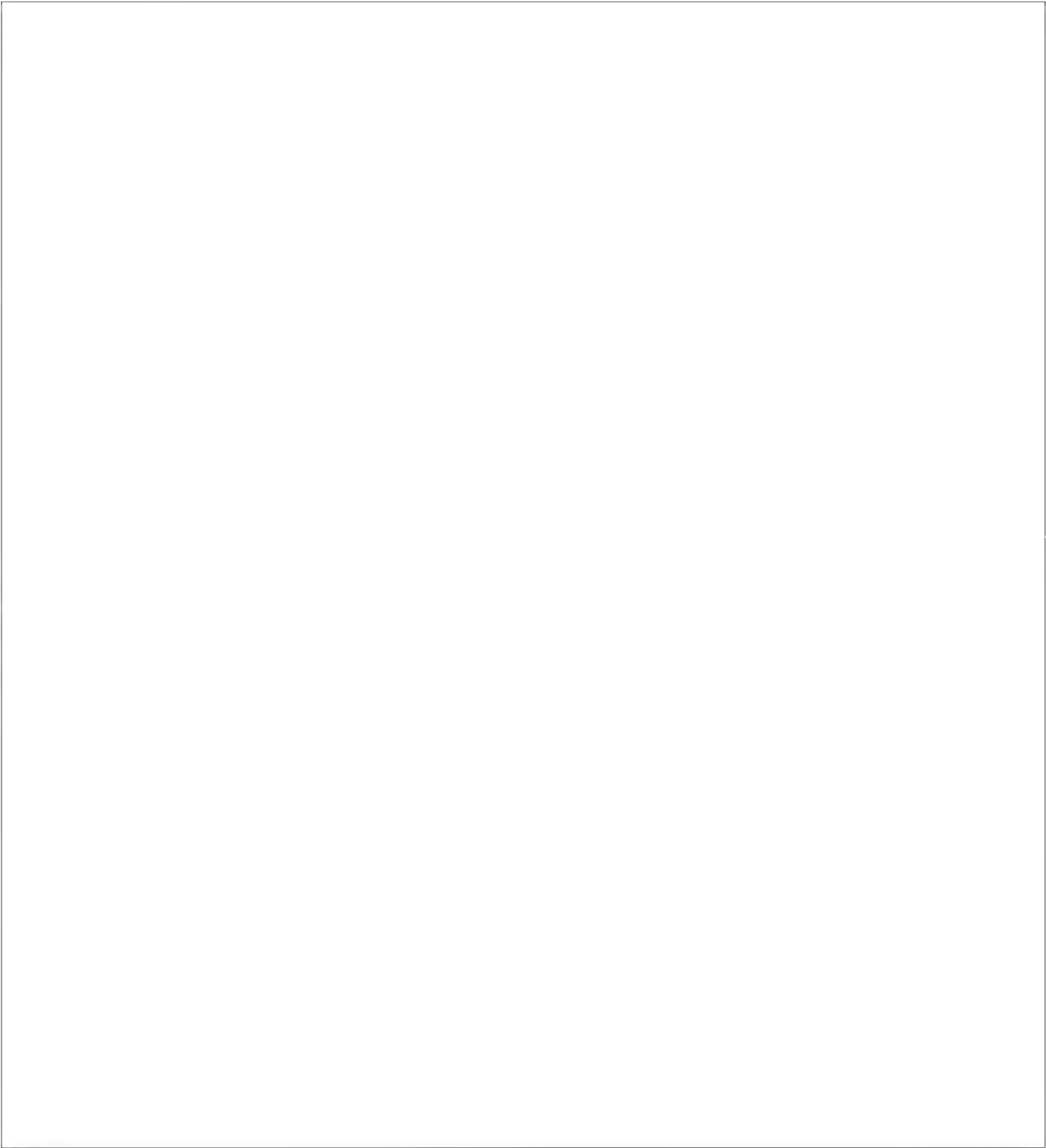


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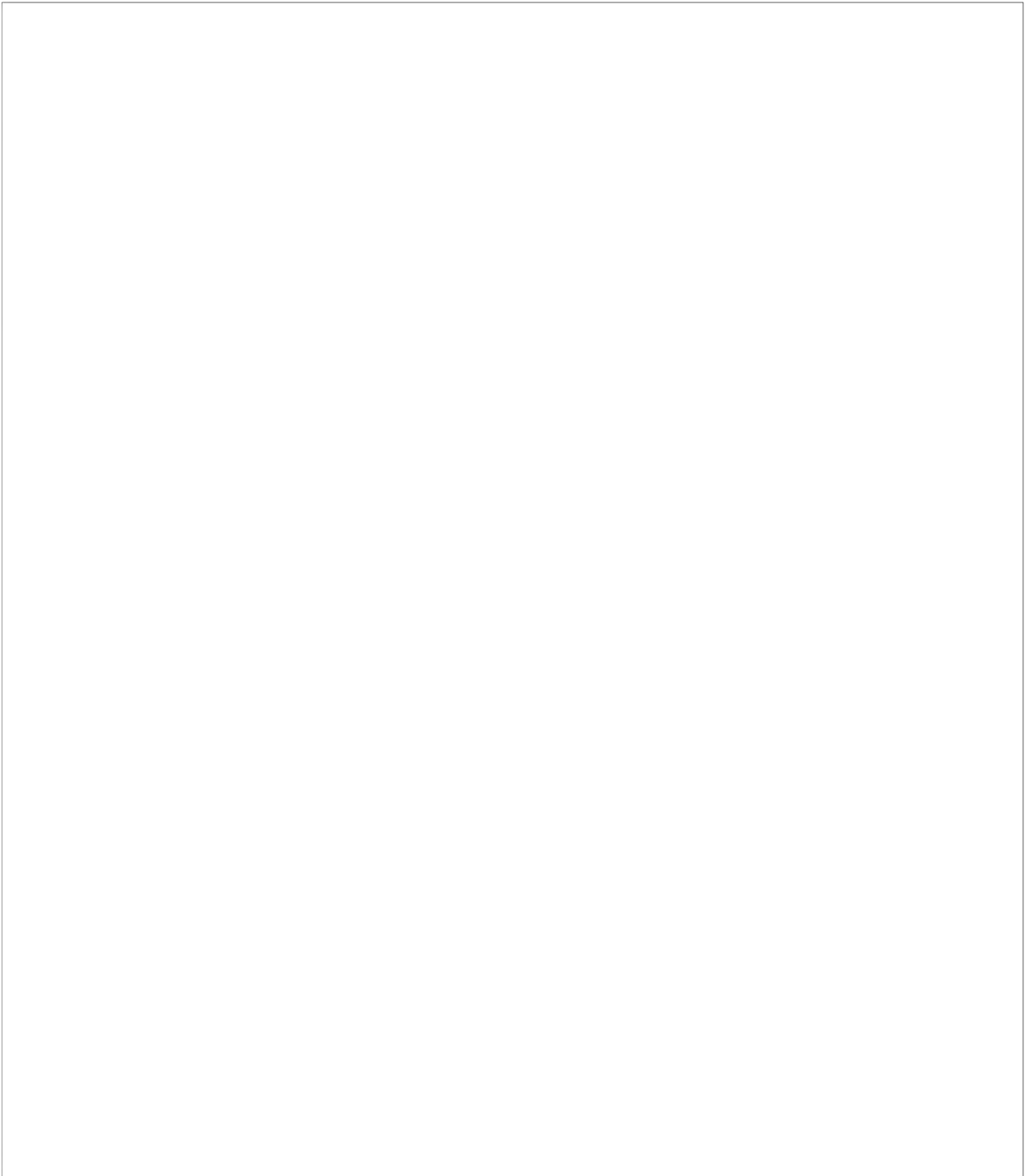
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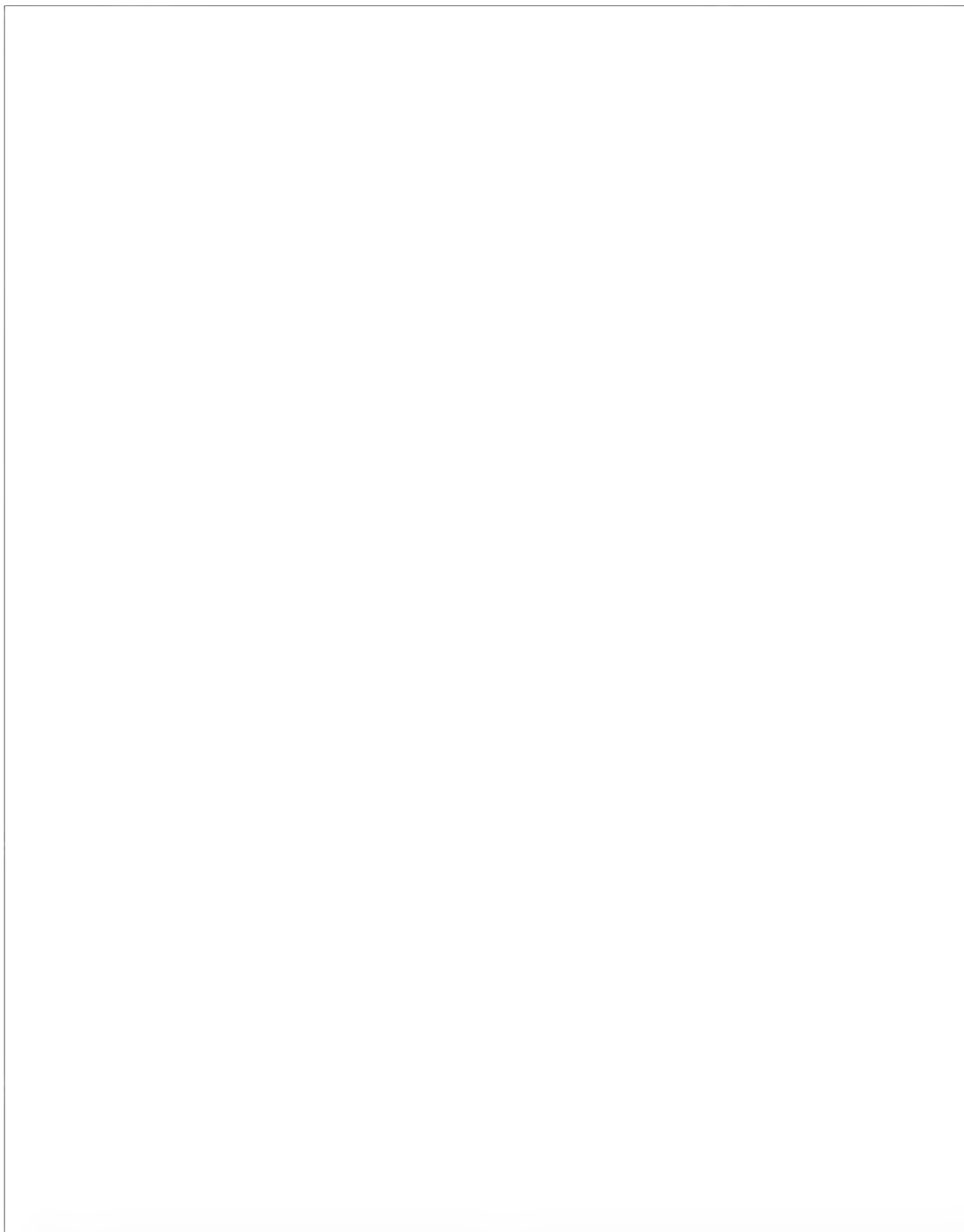
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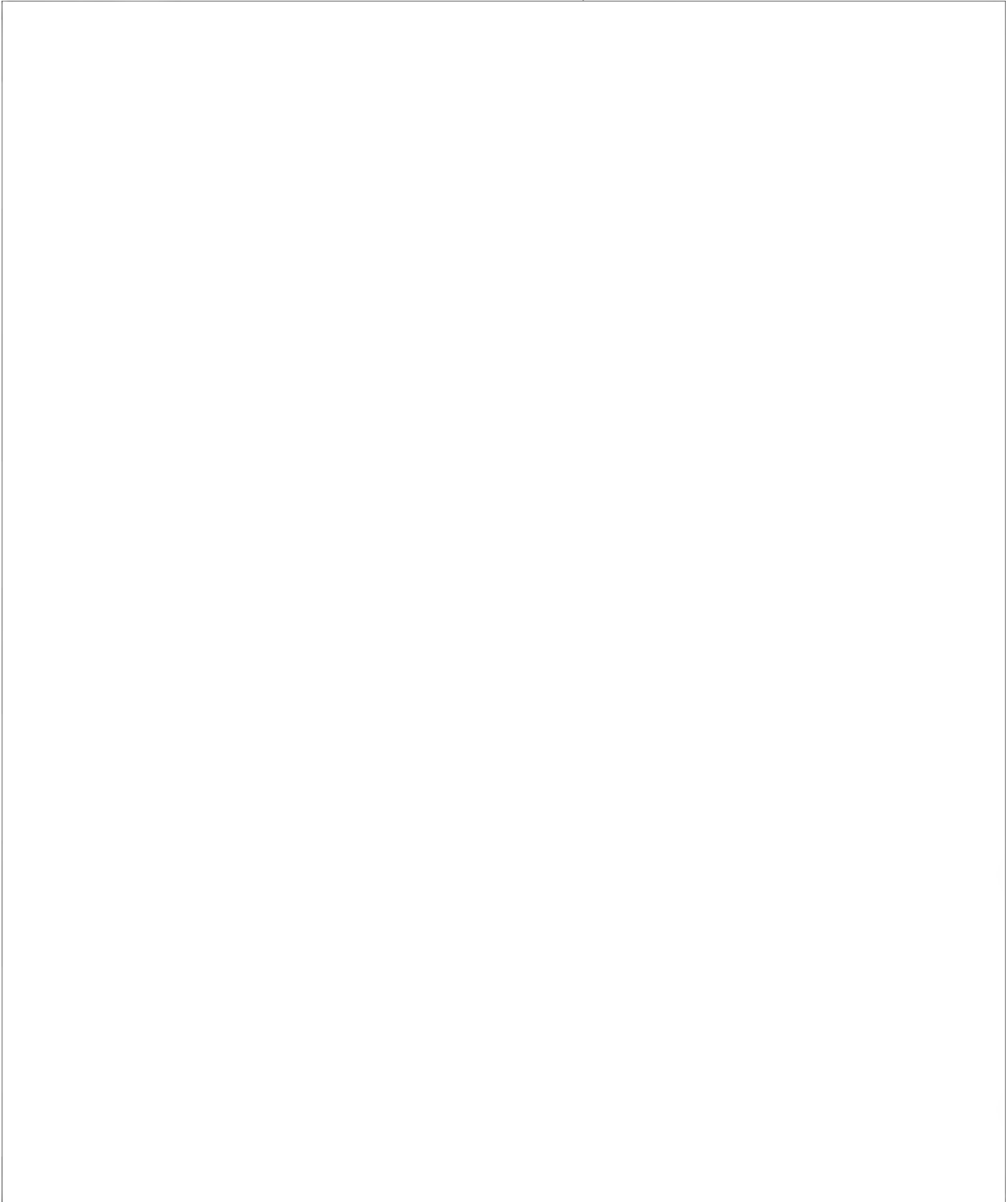
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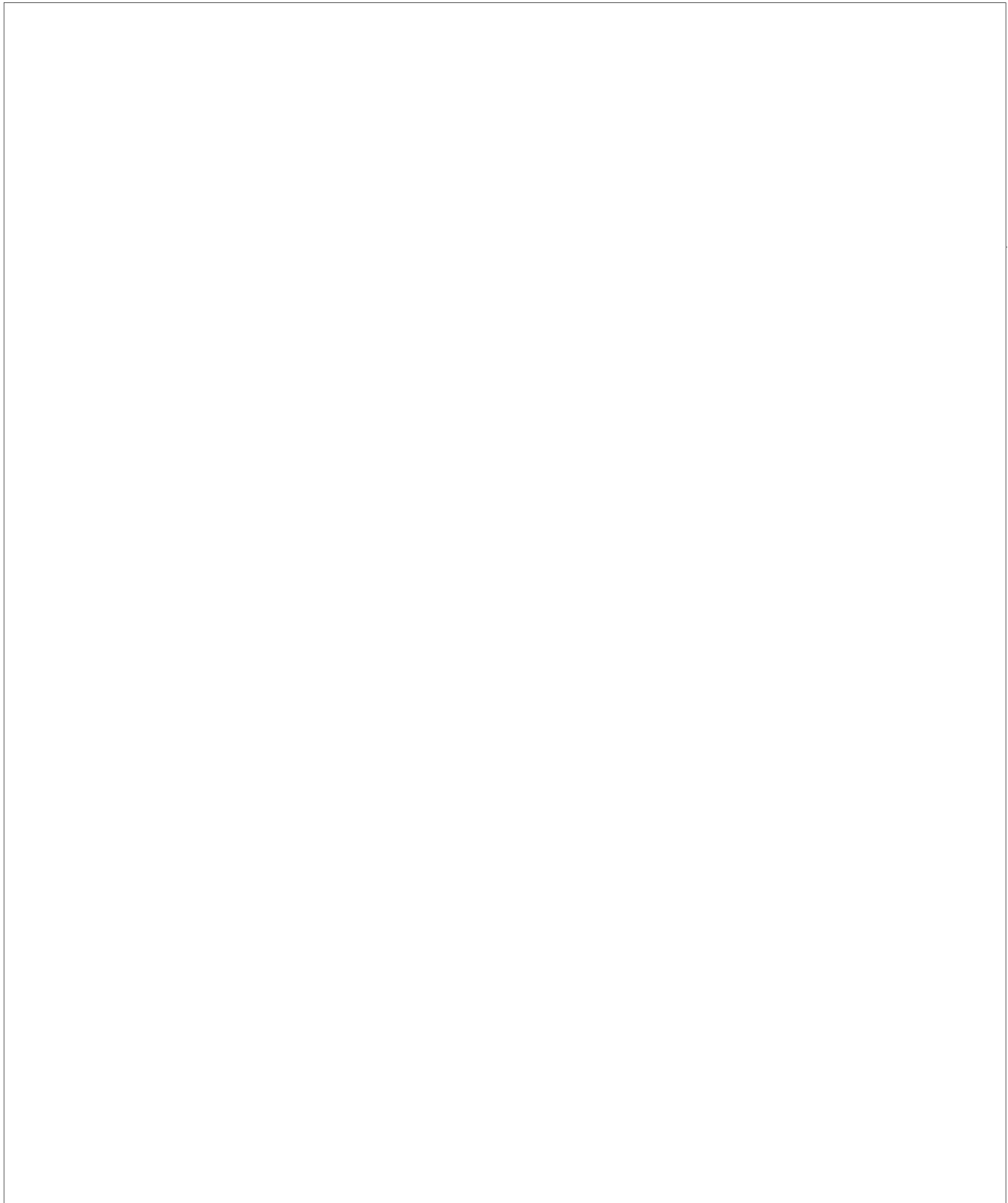
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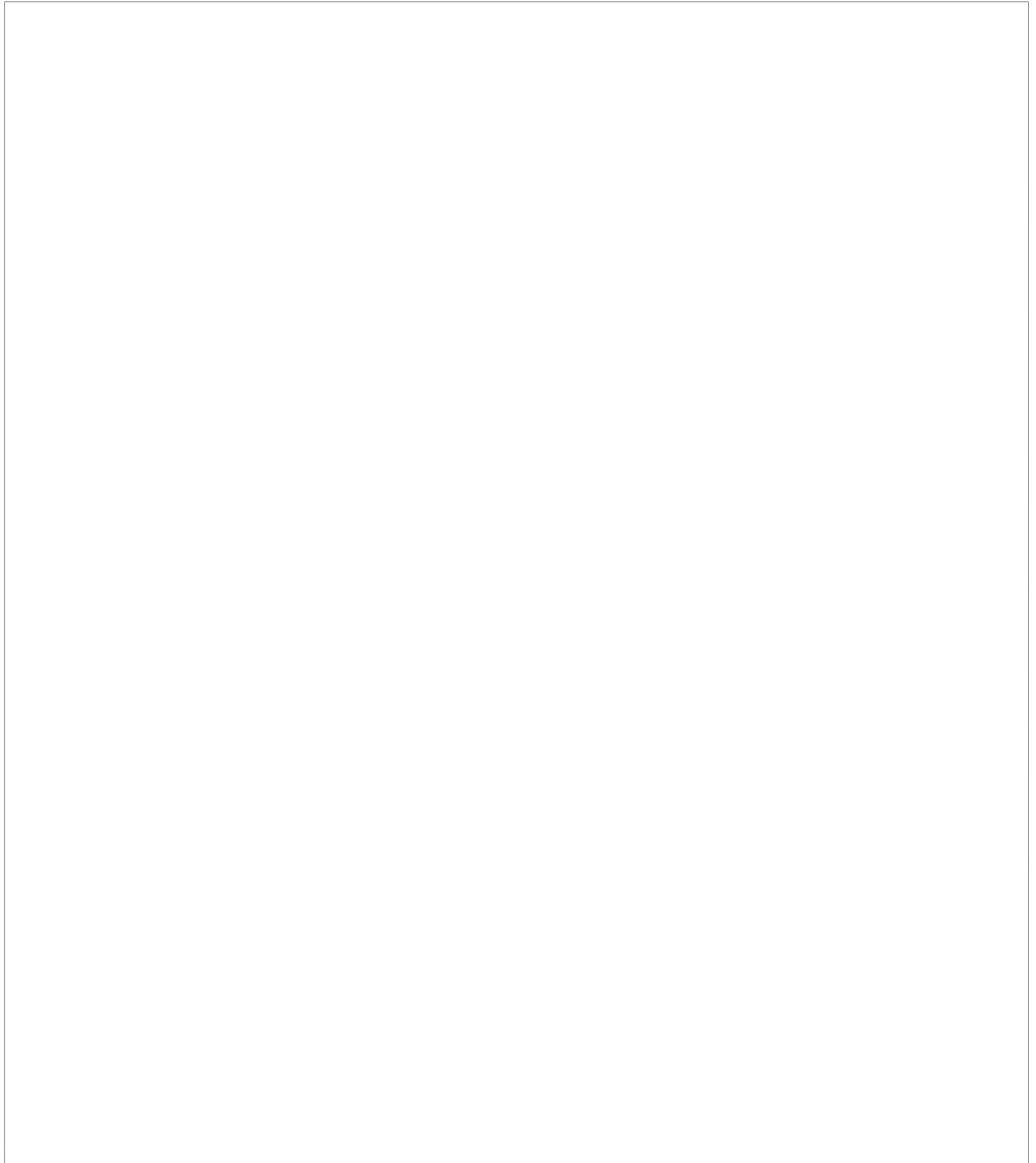
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Highlights

Significant Developments

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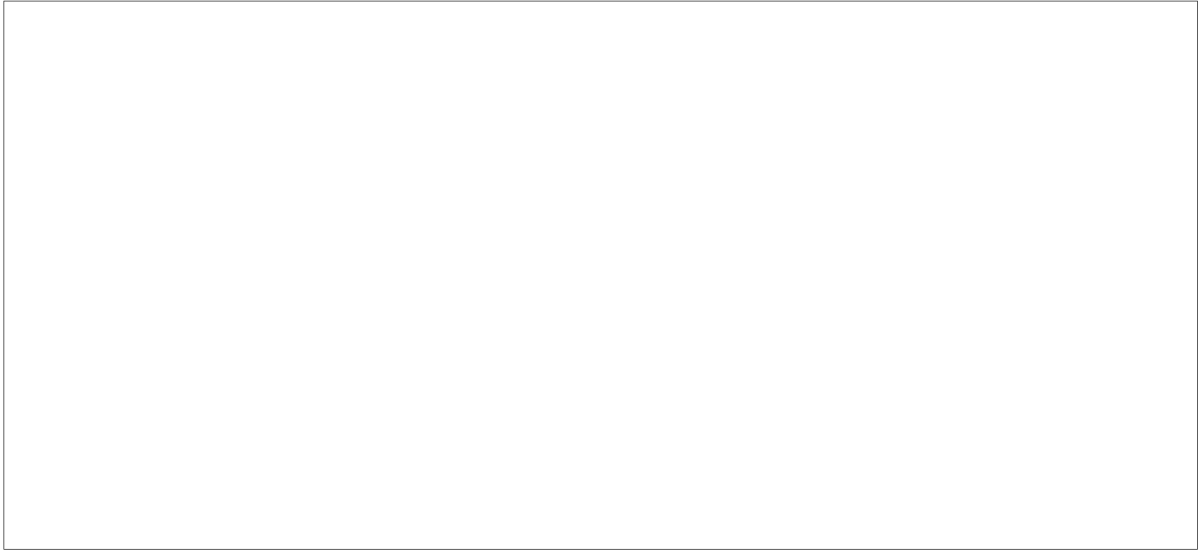
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The Terrorism Diary for March and April

Below is a compendium of March and April dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.

<i>2 March 1956</i>	<i>Morocco.</i> Independence Day (termination of Treaty of Fez).
<i>2 March 1977</i>	<i>Libya.</i> Establishment of Jamahiriyah (Masses' State).
<i>3 March 1878</i>	<i>Bulgaria.</i> Independence Day.
<i>3 March 1961</i>	<i>Morocco.</i> Accession of King Hassan to throne.
<i>4 March 1982</i>	<i>Colombia, United States.</i> Effective date of extradition treaty aimed at narcotics traffickers.
<i>6 March 1957</i>	<i>Ghana.</i> Independence Day.
<i>6 March 1975</i>	<i>Kurdish region.</i> Algerian accord between Iran and Iraq abandoning support for the Kurds.
<i>10 March 1979</i>	<i>Kurdish region.</i> Death of Kurdish leader Mulla Mustafa Barzani.
<i>11 March 1966</i>	<i>Indonesia.</i> President Sukarno turns power over to Suharto.
<i>12 March 1968</i>	<i>Gabon.</i> National Day.
<i>12 March 1880</i>	<i>Turkey.</i> Birthday of Ataturk.
<i>12 March 1968</i>	<i>Mauritius.</i> Independence Day.
<i>13 March 1979</i>	<i>Grenada.</i> Coup d'etat by Maurice Bishop (National Day).
<i>14 March 1975</i>	<i>Japan.</i> Chukaku-ha (Nucleus Faction) Secretary General Honda assassinated by rival radical groups.
<i>16 March 1921</i>	<i>Armenians.</i> Signing of Soviet-Turkish border treaty that ended Armenian hopes of establishing an independent state.
<i>17 March</i>	<i>Ireland.</i> St. Patrick's Day (National Day).
<i>20 March 1956</i>	<i>Tunisia.</i> Independence Day.
<i>20 March 1981</i>	<i>Colombia.</i> Death of M-19 terrorist Carmenza Londono (La Chiqui).

<i>21 March</i>	<i>Turkey.</i> Kurdish New Year.
<i>22 March 1945</i>	<i>Arab World.</i> Founding of Arab League (original members: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Syria).
<i>23 March 1956</i>	<i>Pakistan.</i> Pakistan Day (founding of Islamic republic).
<i>25 March 1921</i>	<i>Greece.</i> Greek Revolution Memorial Day (celebrating beginning of independence from Turkey).
<i>25 March 1932</i>	<i>Iraq.</i> Independence Day.
<i>25 March 1975</i>	<i>Saudi Arabia.</i> Assassination of King Faisal and accession of King Khalid.
<i>26 March 1971</i>	<i>Bangladesh.</i> Independence Day.
<i>26 March 1978</i>	<i>Egypt, Israel.</i> Peace agreement ratified.
<i>26 March 1970</i>	<i>Libya.</i> UK Evacuation Day (day British forces turned over bases and departed).
<i>28 March</i>	<i>Palestinians.</i> National Day.
<i>30 March 1974</i>	<i>Turkey.</i> Death of terrorist Mahir Cayan, member of Turkish People's Liberation Party.
<i>30 March 1976</i>	<i>Palestinians.</i> Day of the Homeland.
<i>April</i>	<i>Armenians.</i> April is dedicated by Armenian groups to the memory of the massacre of Armenians by Turks during World War I.
<i>1 April 1979</i>	<i>Iran.</i> Islamic Republic Day.
<i>4 April 1947</i>	<i>Syria.</i> Founding of Ba'th Party.
<i>4 April 1979</i>	<i>Pakistan.</i> Ex-President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto executed; the terrorist group Al-Zulfikar, founded by his two sons, is named after him.
<i>7 April 1916</i>	<i>Ireland.</i> Beginning of insurrection that led to independence.
<i>8 April 1947</i>	<i>Iraq.</i> Founding of ruling Ba'th Party.
<i>11 April 1968</i>	<i>Palestinians.</i> Founding of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).
<i>13 April 1975</i>	<i>Lebanon.</i> Phalange militiamen attack bus, triggering Lebanese civil war.
<i>14-15 April 1986</i>	<i>Libya.</i> US planes bomb Tripoli and Benghazi in retaliation for Libyan involvement in anti-US terrorism.

19 April 1973

Colombia. Populist group National Popular Alliance extremists founded 19th of April Movement (M-19).

24 April 1915

Armenians. National Day of Sorrow. Commemorates Turkish massacre.

28 April 1937

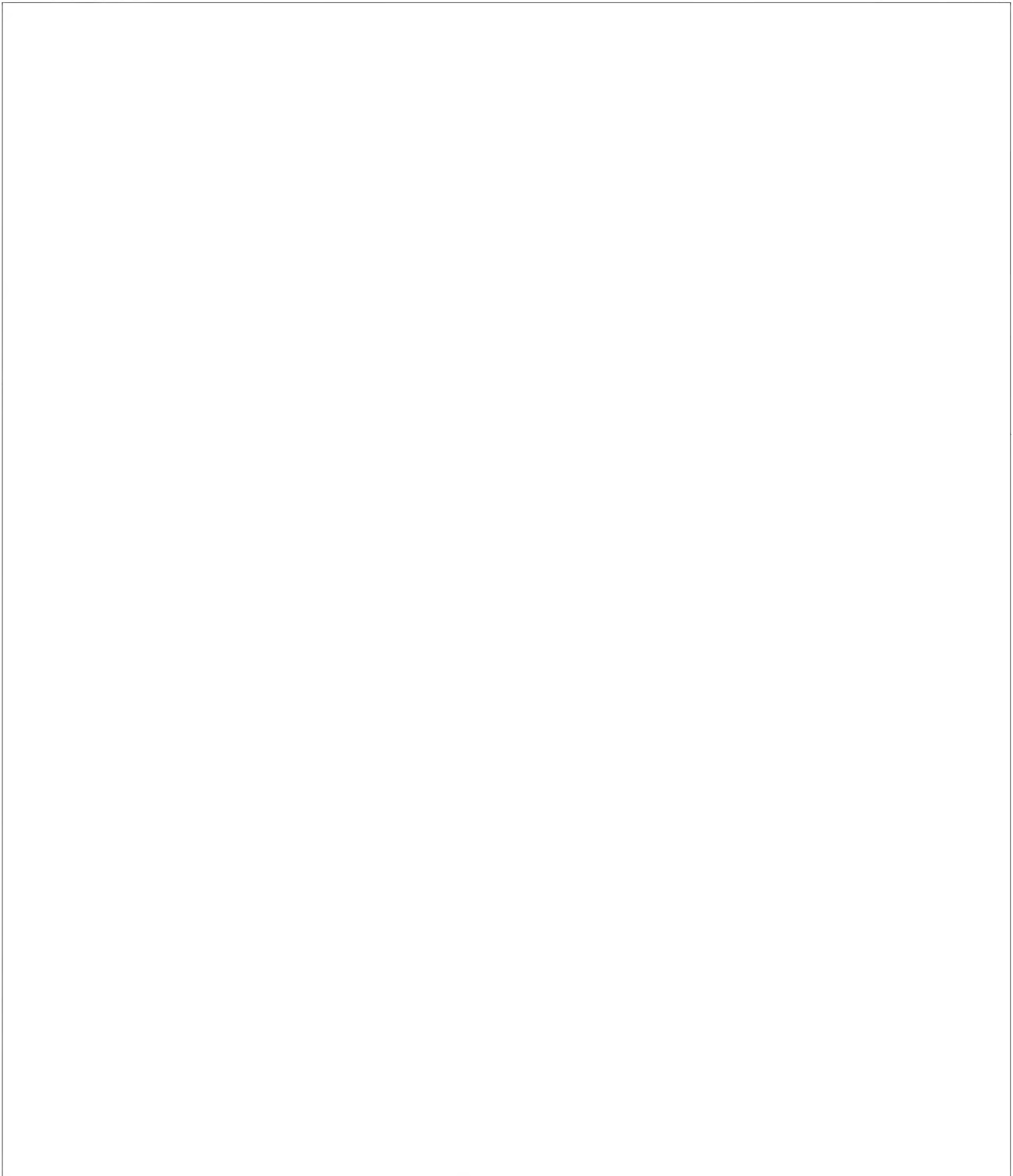
Iraq. Birthday of Saddam Husayn.

29 April 1986

India. Sikh militants declare independent republic of Khalistan at Golden Temple in Amritsar; militants expelled from temple next day.



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Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—January 1997

This description of incidents and situations is not meant to be a detailed accounting of all domestic terrorist incidents, but rather to provide an overview of indigenous terrorism worldwide.

Asia

India

A bomb hidden in a scooter taxi exploded in a high-security residential area of Srinagar on 3 January, killing four persons and wounding three others. A Kashmiri separatist group called the *Jamiat-ul-Mujahideen* claimed responsibility.

Naxalites belonging to the outlawed *People's War Group* attacked a police station on 10 January in Andhra Pradesh, killing 16 policemen and two civilians.

Philippines

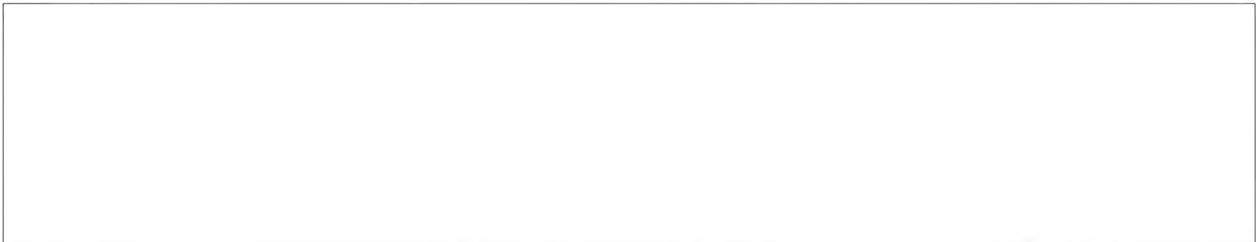
On 6 January suspected members of the *Abu Sayyaf Group* detonated a bomb in a crowded movie theater in Illigan City on Mindanao, injuring 14 persons.

Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels opened fire on soldiers escorting the Mayor of Buldon on 16 January, killing two soldiers and wounding two others.

Sri Lanka

On 18 January, *Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE)* guerrillas attacked a police outpost in Kanugawewa, killing 22 policemen and wounding 20 others.

Europe



Assailants firebombed several public telephones, automated teller machines, and a bookstore in San Sebastian on 12 January, causing major damage to the bookstore. The same day masked youths set fire to a bus in Pamplona. Youth members or sympathizers of *ETA* probably are responsible, according to authorities.

Arsonists set fire to a train station on 21 January in Durango, causing minor damage to two railroad cars but no injuries. *ETA* youth sympathizers are suspected.

Turkey

Authorities defused a pipe bomb found in a package in Istanbul's Bakirkoy seaport on 10 January. The *Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)* is suspected.

Authorities defused a bomb found in a bag next to an automatic teller machine at an Istanbul train station on 21 January. The *PKK* is suspected.

Two assailants threw a fragmentation bomb at a coffeehouse in Fatih, Istanbul, on 21 January, injuring one person. Security forces captured one of the assailants. []

United Kingdom

On 6 January, *Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA)* militants fired a rocket-propelled grenade at a courthouse in Belfast, wounding two persons and causing minor damage. []

PIRA claimed responsibility for detonating an explosive device in a Londonderry street as a convoy of police vehicles drove by on 7 January. No injuries or damage were reported. []

On 13 January, *PIRA* militants fired several mortar rounds at a two-vehicle police patrol in Belfast. The shots landed behind the convoy, causing minor damage to a building. []

Police defused an explosive device found outside a pub in a republican-controlled area of Belfast on 13 January. The *Ulster Freedom Fighters* and the *Ulster Defense Association* are suspected. []

Two bombs exploded in front of a police station in Pottinger on 20 January, causing minor damage but no injuries. *PIRA* is believed responsible. []

Latin America

Colombia

More than 100 *Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)* guerrillas attacked a jail in Caloto on 12 January, releasing 46 prisoners and killing a guard. []

Peru

Fifteen armed *Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA)* rebels looted stores and demanded money from the residents in Shumba on 23 January. Forcing the residents into the main square, the rebels voiced antigovernment slogans and then stole the governor's truck and escaped. []

Middle East

Algeria

A car bomb exploded in a used car parking lot in Boufarik on 16 January, killing 12 bystanders and injuring over 100 others. The *Armed Islamic Group (GIA)* is suspected. []


On 19 January a powerful car bomb exploded in Algiers, killing 23 persons and injuring over 100 others. The *GIA* is suspected. []

Approximately 20 extremists attacked a farm in Algiers on 23 January, decapitating 15 civilians, including a two-year-old child. Two residents escaped but were seriously injured. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. []

[]



Egypt

Gunmen shot and killed a retired police officer in Al-Minya Governorate on 27 January. *Al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya (IG)* may be responsible. 

Israel

A small pipe bomb exploded in a trash can in the Old Central Bus Terminal in Tel Aviv on 9 January, injuring eight persons. A second bomb exploded in another trash can as police responded to the first bomb, injuring five more persons, including two police officers. No one claimed responsibility for the attack. 